



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Robert R. Neall, Secretary

STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Dr. Karen Salmon, State Superintendent of Schools

Interim Guidance for Temperature and Symptom Screening at Child Care Programs Serving Children of Essential Personnel – Updated 4/9/20

In cooperation with the Maryland Department of Health and the Maryland State Department of Education, the following interim guidance has been developed to assist child care facilities in daily temperature and symptom screening without the need for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This guidance may change as PPE becomes more widely available.

Temperature and symptom screening should be conducted daily on each child upon arrival to the child care facility using the following process:

- The individual child's parent/guardian who is dropping off the child should take the child's temperature upon arrival while being directly observed by child care program staff
- Temperature checks should be conducted while maintaining social distancing to the greatest extent possible; in addition, the child's parent/guardian and any child care program staff involved in temperature checks should wear cloth face coverings as recommended by CDC
- The child's parent/guardian should use a personal thermometer brought from home; this thermometer should only be used for that child/family and should not be handled by the child care program staff
- After taking the temperature, the child's parent/guardian should show the temperature result to the child care program staff for recording
- In the event that a family does not have access to a personal thermometer for their child, the parent/guardian should use a thermometer provided by the child care program; non-contact thermometers are preferred but temporal or tympanic (ear) thermometers are also acceptable
 - The parent/guardian should perform hand hygiene and don single use gloves prior to taking the child's temperature with a thermometer provided by the child care program
 - Temporal and tympanic thermometers should be cleaned and disinfected after each use and non-contact thermometers should be cleaned routinely as recommended by CDC for infection control
- The child's parent/guardian should be asked if the child has any symptoms of COVID-19 and if there are persons in the household with symptoms of COVID-19



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Robert R. Neall, Secretary

STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Dr. Karen Salmon, State Superintendent of Schools

- Children with a fever (>100.4) or other signs of illness or who have persons in the household with symptoms of COVID-19 should not be admitted to the child care facility

All child care program staff should monitor their temperature at home and report the temperature to the child care center director/administrator upon arrival to the facility. If a temperature is not reported, a temperature should be taken by another child care staff member following the procedure above.

Child care program staff should also be monitoring themselves for any symptoms of COVID-19 and should not enter the facility if they have a fever or other signs of illness or have persons in their household with symptoms of COVID-19.